

Attorney Docket No.: F7752(V)
Serial No.: 10/583,421
Filing Date: June 19, 2006
Confirmation No.: 1710

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.(Currently amended): Edible barrier suitable for use in food products, comprising a cross-linked biopolymer and a lipid material, said edible barrier having a thickness of about 2 to 1,500 micrometer wherein said lipid material is an edible oil, fat or wax.

Claim 2 (Original): Barrier according to claim 1, wherein the biopolymer is a hydrocolloid based biopolymer.

Claim 3 (Original): Barrier according to claim 2, wherein the hydrocolloid based biopolymer contains ortho-methoxy-phenolic groups.

Claim 4 (Original): Barrier according to claim 3, wherein the hydrocolloid based biopolymer contains ferulic acid groups.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): Barrier according to claim 1, wherein the biopolymer is a pectin.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): Barrier according to claim 1, having a thickness of about 10 to 500 micrometer.

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Claim 7 (Original): Barrier according to claim 6, having a thickness of about 50 to 200 micrometer.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): Barrier according to claim 1, wherein the cross-linked biopolymer is hydrophobically modified.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): Barrier according to claim 1, wherein the compound is a modified polymer which contains ferulic acid and one or two fatty acid chains coupled to a vanillin coupled polymer as e.g. chitosan.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): Barrier according to claim 1 wherein the cross-linked biopolymer is crosslinked to a protein or a vanillin coupled protein (e.g. casein-vanillin)

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): Composite food product comprising parts having different water activities (aw), separated by the barrier according to claim 1.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): Food product comprising an edible barrier according to claim 1, covering a food ingredient selected from the group consisting of vegetables, fruit, bread, and fish.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): Process for the preparation of a food product, wherein parts having different water activities (aw), are separated by the barrier according to claim 1.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): Process according to claim 13, wherein the oxidation is carried out by an enzyme or enzymatic system.

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Claim 15 (Withdrawn): Process according to claim 14, this enzyme system is already present in situ, e.g. tomato peroxidase in tomatoes.